

GENE LUEN YANG · FREDDIE E. WILLIAMS II · ANDREW DALHOUSE



13

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES



FREDDIE E.
WILLIAMS II
House

COLORS BY ANDREW DALHOUSE

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES



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NEW YORK
CHINATOWN.
YESTERDAY.

I INVITED
YOU HERE AS
A *COURTESY* TO
YOUR EMPLOYER,
MR. BRINKMAN.

YET YOU HAVE
THE *AUDACITY*
TO ACCUSE ME OF
SHORTCHANGING
YOU?

YOUR GHOST BOYS
ARE NOW A REAL THREAT,
MADAME XIANG, ALL 'CUZ
OF THE BOSS'S FRIENDSHIP
WITH YOU. IT'S ONLY RIGHT
THAT HE INCREASES THE
WHATCHAMACALLIT...
*INVESTMENT DONATION
MINIMUM.*

I NEVER
AGREED TO ANY
"INCREASE."
AGAIN, AS A
COURTESY...

...I'LL PERMIT
YOU TO LEAVE
WITH YOUR
LIFE!

NOT TILL
I'VE GOT THE
FULL AMOUNT
IN HAND, LADY!

THOK THOK

AAAHH!

RUN, BOY.
RUN WHILE
YOU CAN.

WHO...

I EXPRESSLY
STATED THAT I WOULD
HANDLE THIS MEETING
ALONE! WHO DO YOU
REPORT TO?!

I AM NOT
ONE OF YOUR
UNDERLINGS,
XIANG FEI
TONG.



MANHATTAN
BRIDGE.
TODAY.

SO HERE'S
THE CURRENT
INTEL, TURTLES.

LAST NIGHT IN
CHINATOWN, XIANG
FEI TONG WAS
MURDERED BY AN
UNKNOWN ASSAILANT,
LEAVING THE GHOST
BOYS TRIAD
LEADERLESS!

DIDN'T APRIL
ALREADY TELL US
ALL THIS, LEO?

IT'S LIKE
HE'S *IN LOVE*
WITH THE
SOUND OF
HIS OWN
VOICE!

COME ON,
GUYS! JUST LET
HIM DO IT! LOOK
AT HOW *HAPPY*
IT MAKES HIM!

SO NOW,
FACTIONS WITHIN
THE TRIAD ARE
HAVING AN *ALL-OUT*
WAR FOR CONTROL!
IN THE MIDDLE OF
RUSH HOUR, NO
LESS!

IT'S LIKE I'M
ALWAYS TELLING
YOU GUYS. WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN
NOBODY'S IN
CHARGE? *TOTAL*
CHAOS.

OOOH!
OOOH!

IF LEO'S
FINALLY DONE
LEO-SPLAINING,
CAN I SAY IT?

MIKEY,
NO!

AW, LET
HIM, RAPH! IT
MAKES HIM
HAPPY!

WHAT ABOUT
ME?! DON'T I
DESERVE TO BE
HAPPY?!

YUP. AND *GRUMBLING*
ABOUT THE REST OF
US MAKES YOU
HAPPY.

HMPH. THINK
YOU GOT US
ALL FIGURED
OUT, DONTCHA,
DONNIE?

HEY, WHAT CAN
I SAY? FIGURING
YOU GUYS OUT
MAKES *ME*
HAPPY.

READY?

LET'S MOVE!

RAPH! MIKEY!
FOCUS ON THE
ARCHERS ALONG THE
PERIPHERY! DONNIE
AND I WILL TAKE
DOWN THE GUYS
IN THE MIDDLE!

I'M GONNA
SAY IT--

COWABUNGA!

IT'S NOT JUST FIGURING
THEM OUT. IT'S BEING
WITH THEM, TOO. AFTER
HAVING BEEN APART
FOR SO LONG...

...BEING WITH MY
BROTHERS MAKES
ME HAPPY.







ALMOST.



DO NOT
BE AFRAID,
DONATELLO. I
STAND WITH
YOU AND YOUR
BROTHERS
ALWAYS.

STOP

LEO...?
HOW'D YOU
KNOW I'D BE
HERE?

YOU'RE NOT
THE ONLY ONE
WHO CAN FIGURE
THINGS OUT,
DONNIE.

EXIT



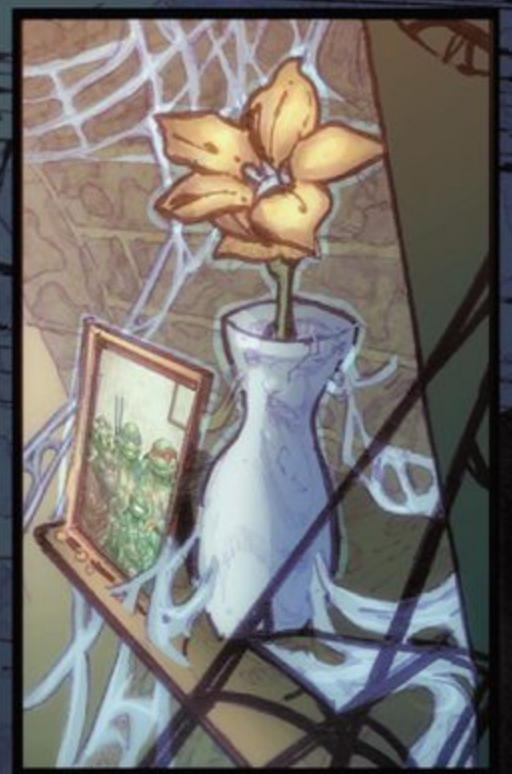
I CAN'T HELP THINKING,
IF ONLY *FATHER* WERE
HERE... THINGS WOULD
BE *PRETTY PERFECT*,
WOULDN'T THEY?

YEAH.
MAYBE.



LOOK WHAT
I BROUGHT.

THANKS,
BROTHER.







MMM.
RUPERT'S PIZZA IS
PERFECTION.



YOU KNOW
WHAT'D MAKE THIS
EVEN *PERFECTER*,
THOUGH?

IF WE WERE
EATING IT *AT*
RUPERT'S!

"PERFECTER"
IS NOT A
WORD, MIKEY!

ER, I DON'T
THINK...



Y'KNOW, FRESH
OUT OF THE OVEN
INSTEAD OF A
CARDBOARD BOX!
THE WAY PIZZA WAS
MEANT TO BE
EATEN!

I DON'T KNOW. I
FIND THE *HINT OF*
CARDBOARD KIND
OF COMFORTING.

HEY, HOW ABOUT WE ALL
JUST BE *GRATEFUL* THAT
OUR DEAR FRIEND *APRIL*
BOUGHT US PIZZA
AT ALL?



THANK YOU,
APRIL!

YOU'RE
WELCOME,
GUYS.



AND SURE,
FRESH OUT OF
THE OVEN IS BEST, BUT
THIS GET-TOGETHER
ISN'T JUST ABOUT
CATCHING UP WITH
YOU GUYS.

I ALSO WANTED
TO TALK OVER
THE WHOLE *GHOST*
BOYS SITUATION,
AND WE CAN'T DO
THAT IN PUBLIC.



WHEN I USED TO WORK FOR STOCKGEN, STOCKMAN HAD THIS WEIRD ANNUAL RITUAL. SAME MYSTERY INVESTOR, SAME TEAHOUSE, SAME DAY OF THE YEAR.

ALWAYS ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF NOVEMBER AT THE WHITE LILY TEA ROOM.



THE WHITE LILY TEA ROOM... THAT'S WHERE XIANG FEI TONG WAS KILLED!

ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF NOVEMBER, TOO!



WHOA, WHOA, WHOA... APRIL, YOU'RE SAYING **BAXTER STOCKMAN** HAS A PART IN THIS MESS?

I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE, BUT WOULD YOU BE SURPRISED?

NOT IN THE SLIGHTEST.



LOOK, SOONER OR LATER THE GHOST BOYS ARE GONNA GET THEMSELVES SORTED OUT.

AND ONCE THEY DO, ONE OF THEM WILL PROBABLY FIGURE OUT WHAT USUALLY HAPPENS ON THAT DATE. MY GUESS?



THEY'LL GO AFTER **STOCKMAN**.
THEY'LL WANT REVENGE.



HEY!
THIS IS MY
CORNER!



I...AM
AFRAID.

NORMALLY
I'D THROW HANDS,
BUT CRIPES,
BUDDY. LOOKS LIKE
SOMEBODY BEAT
ME TO IT! YOU
OKAY?



...
HEY, HOW
ABOUT YOU
TAKE THIS? YOU
PROLLY NEED IT
MORE'N ME.



KEEP YER
CHIN UP, BUDDY!
SOONER OR LATER,
THE SUN'LL COME
BACK OUT!

SUN...?



SONS.



I AM
AFRAID...
...OF MY
SONS.

UPPER EAST SIDE.

YOU THINK ALL *SOCIOPATHS* LIVE IN SUCH NICE PLACES? OR JUST THE ONES WHO GET TO BE *MAYOR*?

LEO! STOP HOGGING THE *BINOCULARS*! IT'S MY TURN!

NOT YET.

WE'RE HERE TO *INVESTIGATE* STOCKMAN, RIGHT? SHOULDN'T WE BE *BREAKING IN*?

OR AT LEAST *BREAKIN' SOMETHING*. THIS IS *WICKED BORING*.

THIS *STAKEOUT* IS A VITAL PART OF THE *INTEL GATHERING* PROCESS, TURTLES.

WE HAVE TO BE *PATIENT*.

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY. YOU'VE GOT THE *BINOCULARS*.

WHOA! LOOKS LIKE APRIL WAS ON TO SOMETHING!

THE *GHOST BOYS* JUST SHOWED UP!

BRO! I NEVER GOT A *TURN*!



HA! YOU FOOLS THOUGHT YOU COULD GET THE DROP ON ME, BAXTER STOCKMAN, WITH YOUR SILLY MING DYNASTY CUTLERY?



I'D BE OFFENDED IF YOU WEREN'T ABOUT TO BE DEAD!



GOOD EVENING, MAYOR STOCKMAN. I AM THE NEW SAN CHU OF THE GHOST BOYS.

MY PREDECESSOR WAS MURDERED WHILE MEETING WITH A MAN NAMED BRINKMAN. IMAGINE OUR SURPRISE WHEN WE DISCOVERED THAT HE'S AN ASSOCIATE OF YOURS.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, MISTER MAYOR, WE GHOST BOYS ALWAYS AVENGE OUR OWN.

H-HOLD ON, YOU THINK I HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH XIANG FEI TONG'S DEATH?! PREPOSTEROUS! I ASSURE YOU--

KRUSH



GRF!

STOCKMAN!
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

KAFF KAFF!
GET YOUR
SLIMY HANDS
OFF ME,
REPTILE!

HEY, *EASY!*
WE JUST
SAVED YOUR
LIFE, YOU
DINGUS!



WAIT...
Y-YOU'RE
THAT *DAD!*

SO YOU *LIED*
TO ME?

NOT AT ALL.
THE GHOST
BOYS ARE
MY *KIDS.*

THAT MELEE ON THE
BRIDGE WAS THEIR
TRYOUT. AND THOSE
THREE ARE THE WINNERS--
MY NEW *LIEUTENANTS!*



RAPH!
A LITTLE
HELP?!

*HANG
TIGHT, LITTLE
BRO! BE
RIGHT--*



UFF!

KLANG



THEY CALL ME

**PAPA
BENG.**

WOULD YOU
LIKE TO KNOW
WHY?

NOT
REALLY?



BENG



I
SAID...

NOT
REALLY...

BEFORE I SMASH
YOUR FACE INTO *JELLY*,
TURTLE, PLEASE KNOW THAT
I'LL FOREVER LOOK BACK
ON OUR CONVERSATION WITH
FONDNESS. AFTER ALL--



--I TRULY
AM A
FAN.



THOK

THOK

GRUUMF!

THOK

THOK

THOK

YOU WILL
NOT HURT
THEM AGAIN.





HRK!

AND I AM YOUR
DEATH!

THOK



GOT YOU!

DONATELLO, YOU KNOW NOT WHAT YOU ARE DOING. I AM YOUR *GREATEST ALLY*, YOUR *TRUEST FRIEND*--

--FOR YOUR ENEMIES ARE MY ENEMIES.

I STAND WITH YOU *ALWAYS*.

SO PLEASE. LET GO.

WHA?

DONNIE! WHERE'D THAT *SCUMBAG* RUN OFF TO?

HE...
...HE GOT AWAY.

NEW YORK
CHINATOWN.
YESTERDAY.

I INVITED
YOU HERE AS
A *COURTESY* TO
YOUR EMPLOYER,
MR. BRINKMAN.

MY MIND WAS
FOGGED BY
THE LINGERING
RESIDUE OF
DEATH.

I WAS
MISTAKEN.

YET YOU HAVE
THE *AUDACITY*
TO ACCUSE ME OF
SHORTCHANGING
YOU?

I AM NOT
AFRAID OF
MY SONGS.

I AM
AFRAID *FOR*
MY SONGS.

AND
SO...

A full-page comic book illustration depicting a colossal, multi-headed dragon breathing fire. The dragon's heads are rendered in shades of blue, purple, and brown, with large, intense eyes. Fire erupts from its mouths, filling the upper portion of the frame with bright orange and yellow flames. The scene is set in a city at night, with traditional buildings and red lanterns visible in the background. Heavy rain falls diagonally across the entire scene, creating a sense of urgency and drama. In the bottom right corner, a yellow box contains the text "TO BE CONTINUED...".

...I MUST
STAND WITH
THEM *ALWAYS*.

ALWAYS.

TO BE CONTINUED...

NINJA TURTLES



HELLO, SHELLHEADS!

Keeping a secret is hard! For months now, we've been sitting on not just one, but TWO major bombshells: Splinter is back, and now he's a deadly assassin in disguise?! How could this be?! Well, let's just say the surprises are far from over.

What hopefully isn't a surprise is that it's a great time to be a TMNT fan. One more round of applause for Jason Aaron and his incredible team of artists, especially the one-of-a-kind Juan Ferreyra, for a truly incredible run that we believe is destined to be a fan favorite for a long, long time. It's tricky work following up a series like that, but we hope you agree after this hard-hitting first issue that Gene Luen Yang and Freddie E. Williams II have the goods! The things they're cooking up for next issue and beyond...it's going to be a feast for the fans, so bring your appetite!

And the awesomeness of the TMNT line doesn't stop there! We want to take a second to spotlight some of the incredible books going on right now in the TMNT universe.

If you're looking for something a little more sinister, the Turtles' archnemesis, SHREDDER, now has his own series! Written by the great Dan Watters with art by the extraordinary Michele Bandini, this book follows Shredder on his quest to reestablish his power and take control of his destiny once again. Woe to those who get in his way!

If you want something on the more heroic side, CASEY JONES has his own miniseries on stands now! Written with heart and soul by Alex Paknadel and drawn with gusto by the always-astounding Amancay Nahuelpan, this terrifying tale pits Casey against a cabal of villains sure to give our baseball-bat-brandishing brawler a brutally bad time. Of course, Casey's been feeling a bit lost ever since being put in a coma by D.A. Hale, but there's a clarity of purpose that only a punch to the face and a hockey stick in the hand can bring.

Perhaps you're looking for a more classic vintage? Might we recommend *TMNT: JOURNEYS*, a reprinting of the long-out-of-print Peter Laird and Jim Lawson TMNT run from the early 2000s. The book follows an older and more mature cast from the original Mirage run as they grapple with a world much different than the one they used to inhabit. Laird's storytelling and Lawson's art remain as dynamic and intriguing as ever. A brilliant read from one of the founding fathers of the TMNT!

For the young and young at heart, we have our adventures from animated series. *TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: SATURDAY MORNING ADVENTURES*, written by Erik Burnham and drawn by Dan Schoening and Sarah Myer, follows the classic cartoon continuity of everyone's favorite Heroes in a Half-Shell. And *TALES OF THE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES* tells the further adventures of the newest animated Turtles series, written by Mikey Levitt and Andrew Joustera, with art by the ever-charming Louie Joyce.

If you're a fan of the monstrous, there's *TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES X GODZILLA*. Written by Tim Seeley with art by Fero Pe, it's mutants versus monsters in the biggest fight of the year!

And speaking of big fights, if you want all your favorite Turtles in one place, check out the upcoming dimension-spanning fisticuffs of *BATTLE NEXUS*, written and drawn by a cavalcade of Turtles luminaries!



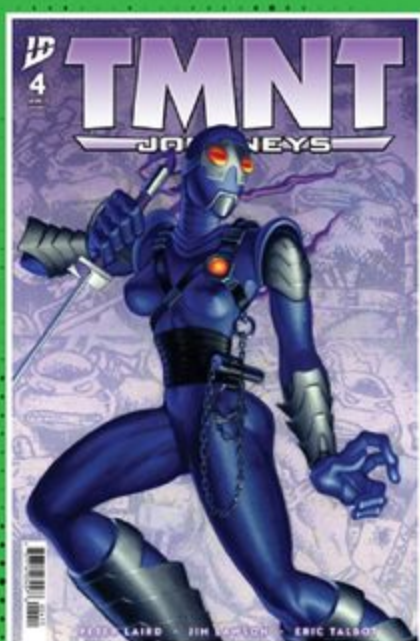
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ON SALE JANUARY 14TH



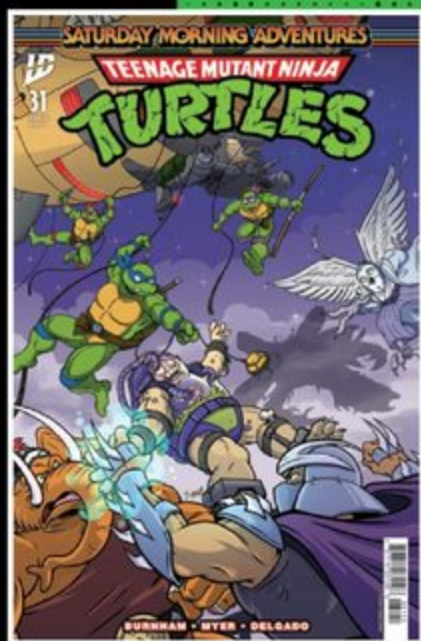
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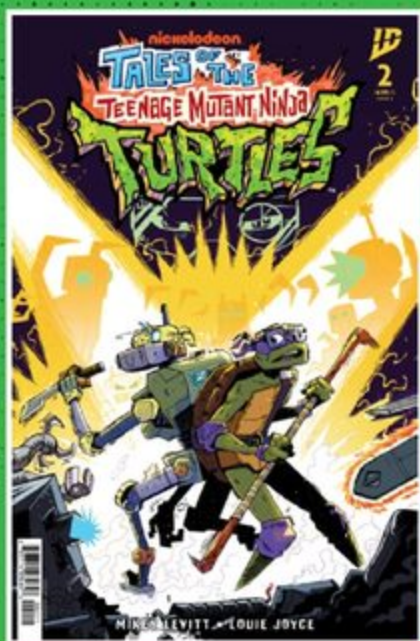
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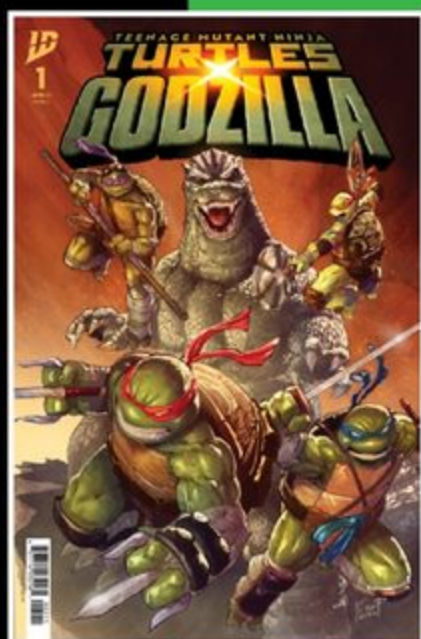
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COVER BY LOUIE JOYCE
ON SALE NOW!



COVER BY FERÓ PE
ON SALE NOW!



COVER BY ISAAC & ESAU ESCORZA
ON SALE DECEMBER 24TH!

WE'LL GET BACK TO YOUR LETTERS NEXT TIME—
WE'RE SURE YOU'LL HAVE SOME
THOUGHTS ON THIS ISSUE!—
SO KEEP SENDING THEM IN. UNTIL THEN,
IT'S TA-TA FROM TEAM TURTLES!

Have something to add?
Drop us a line at
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Mark the email "okay to print" if you
don't mind us potentially sharing
your feedback in this column!

NEXT ISSUE



COVER A



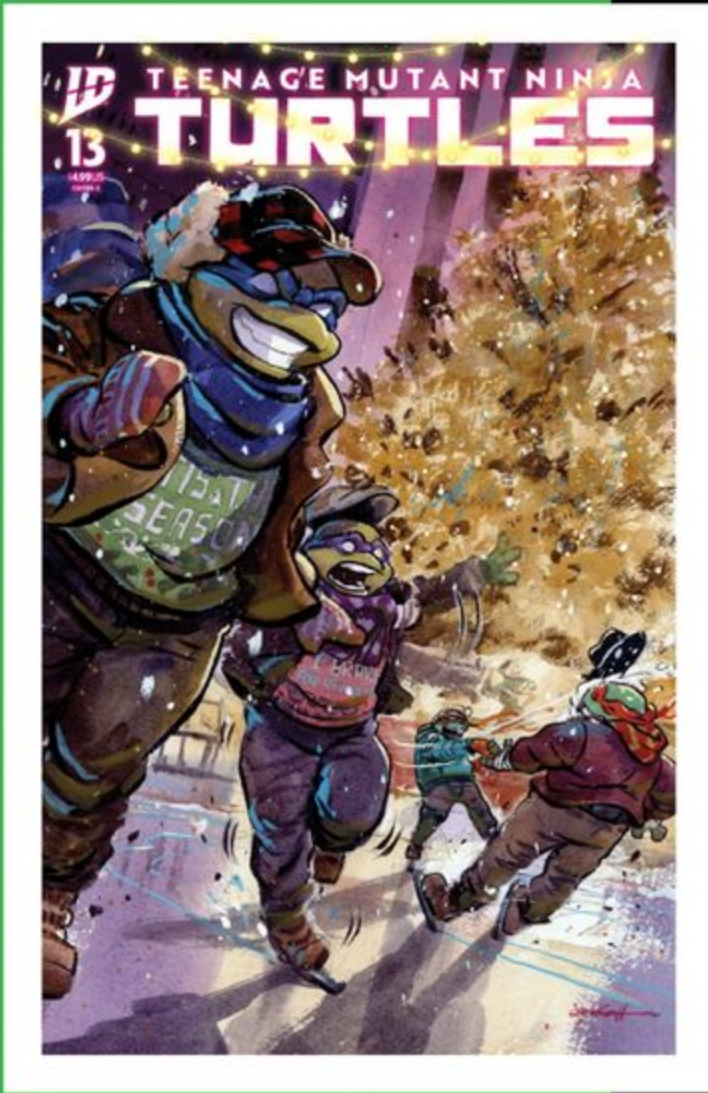
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COVER B



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COLORS BY FAHRIZA KAMAPUTRA

COVER C



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JARED CULLUM

COVER D



ART BY
CLAYTON CRAIN

COVER E



ART BY
DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON

RI COVER



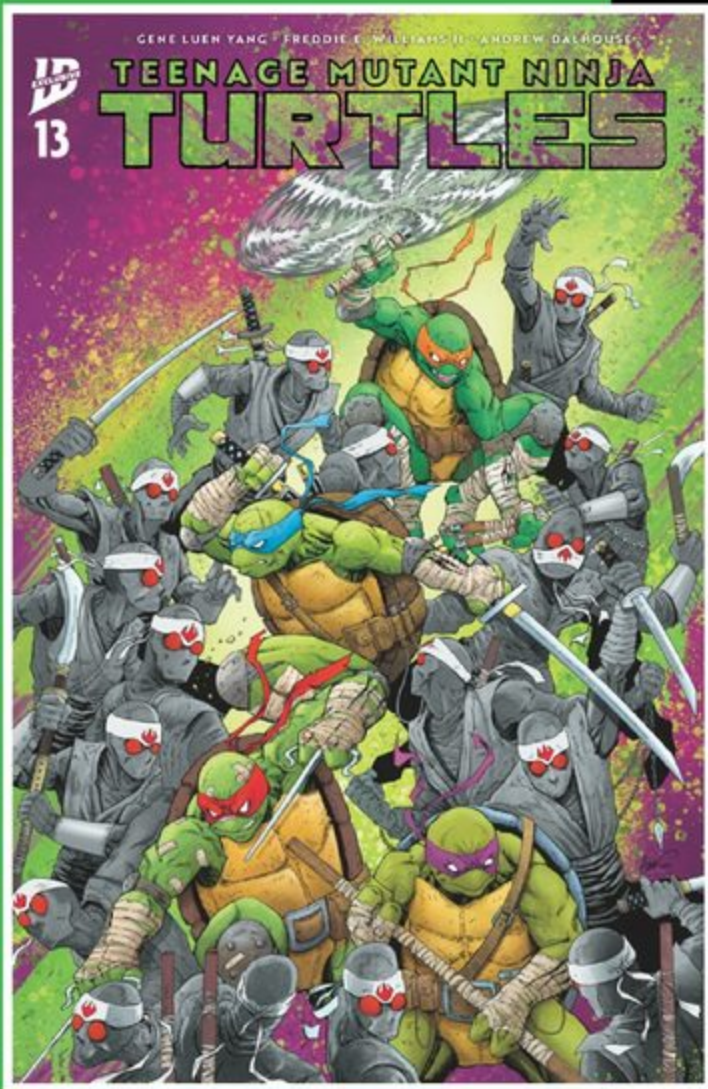
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DUSTIN NGUYEN

RI COVER



ART BY
DAVID NAKAYAMA

IDW EXCLUSIVE



ART BY
EAMON WINKLE

MUTA-GENE MAN!

AN INTERVIEW WITH NEW TMNT SCRIBE GENE LUEN YANG.

Tell us a little bit about yourself! What got you into comics?

Hi! My name is Gene Luen Yang, and I live in the San Francisco Bay area. I'm the father of four and the husband of one. I write, and sometimes draw, comic books.

I've been a comic book fan for a long, long time. One night when I was in the fifth grade, my mom took me to our local bookstore and bought me a copy of *DC Comics Presents #57* starring Superman and the Atomic Knights. I've been obsessed with comics ever since.

Tell us about your history with the TMNT!

I remember watching the old Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles cartoon with my younger brother when we were kids. I remember playing with the action figures. And I remember first encountering a collection of the old Mirage Studios black-and-white comics at a friend's house. I was blown away by the grittiness and charisma of Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird's art. It looked so different from the Marvel and DC comics that I was collecting at the time. There was just nothing else like it.

Then in my 20s, I began self-publishing my own comic books. I applied for the Xeric Grant, which was established by Peter Laird to support the next generation of creators. I still remember the day I found out I got the grant. One of the best days of my life. So, the very first comic of mine to be carried at my local comic shop was funded by the Ninja Turtles. I could not be more grateful.

What do you think makes a great TMNT story?

My theory is that the Ninja Turtles resonate so widely because they tap into something buried deep in our collective psyche. They're archetypes, right? We all know a leader who tries to do the right thing, but can sometimes be a little bossy, like Leonardo. We all know a gold-hearted hothead like Raphael, an introspective nerd like Donatello, and a party dude like Michelangelo. A great Ninja Turtles story showcases the brothers, both the differences between them and their unbreakable bond.

Something else I love about the Turtles is their "multi-genre-ness." Yes, that's a made-up word, but you know what I'm saying. You can drop them into pretty much any kind of story, and it'll work. Doesn't matter if it's martial arts action or science fiction or horror or even historical drama. The Turtles will make it work. They might be the most flexible characters in all of American pop culture.

There's going to be a LOT of talk about this new villain, Ujigami. What do you think makes for an effective TMNT bad guy?

Just as the Turtles themselves are flexible, their villains are flexible, too. You can have the Turtles go up against a master ninja like Shredder or an egomaniacal genius like Baxter Stockman or brain-shaped aliens like the Utroms. Individually, the villains all feel like they come from very different kinds of stories, but they all fit into the TMNT universe.

Also, the best Turtles villains have an oddball edge to them. They'll have the emotional core that any good villain has, of course. They'll be a hero in their own mind. But they also need to have an extra weirdness, an extra oomph on top of that. Otherwise, they won't fit into the same world as our favorite walking, talking, ninjitsu-fighting turtles.

Freddie and I hope that this is true of Ujigami, the main antagonist of our first arc. We're very excited about our dog-faced assassin and we hope he brings something new to the TMNT universe.

Artist Freddie E. Williams II has done a lot of work with the Turtles, but this is his first time doing interiors for the main book. What can you tell us about working with Freddie on the book?

Freddie's so good at drawing the Turtles, I'm kind of shocked that he hasn't ever been on the main book until now. You can tell which Turtle is which just by their facial expressions—that's how good Freddie is. I think fans, even fans of his previous work, are going to be blown away. His art on #13 is next-level stuff.

New York is such an important part of the TMNT. As a lifelong West Coaster, what does NYC mean to you, and what do you see it meaning to the Turtles?

I love New York City! It's so iconic. When people from other countries think of America, they often think of New York. I've gone to New York multiple times for comic book conventions and the like. My impression is that the city has a gruff and hardened (dare I say shell-like?) exterior, but a thoughtful, soft-hearted interior. Seems like the perfect environment for the Turtles.

We know your favorite Turtle is Donatello, but who is your favorite TMNT supporting character and why?

Does Usagi Yojimbo count? I am a huge Stan Sakai fan. Other than Usagi, I'd have to say a character from season 4 of the 2012 TMNT cartoon—one who has yet to make an appearance in the IDW comics but might soon. (No spoilers!)

If you woke up tomorrow and you were a Ninja Turtle, what color/design mask would you wear? What would your weapon be? All taken colors and weapons are off the table!

What?! But the taken colors and weapons are all the good ones! I guess I'd want to out-nerd Donatello to make him look a little bit cooler, so I'd wear a brown and beige argyle mask and matching sweater vest. I'd fight with ballpoint pens that I'd sheath in my pocket protector.

How have your previous books prepared you for working on TMNT? What about TMNT is familiar and what is different?

I had the honor of writing a 24-issue run on Shang-Chi, Marvel's kung fu superhero. Really fun job, plus I got to work with amazing artists like Dike Ruan, Marcus To, and Michael YG. That book blended martial arts action with sibling drama, just like the Ninja Turtles. There are key differences, though. While you can argue that Shang-Chi's siblings are all ninjas (or at least ninja-like), only one is a teenager and only one is a mutant. Also, none of them are turtles.

What do you like on your pizza?

Pineapple! I know it's a controversial answer, but that's the honest-to-goodness truth.

The Turtles have "Cowabunga!" What is Gene Luen Yang's battle cry? "GO TEAM COMICS!"

BEAT. BROKEN. BACK IN THE GAME.

CASEY JONES RETURNS FROM THE EDGE AND THIS TIME HE'S NOT PLAYING NICE.

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES

CASEY JONES



Cover by Amancay Nahuelpan and Luis Antonio Delgado

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BY ALEX PAKNADEL & AMANCAY NAHUEL PAN

NO MERCY. NO RULES. JUST CASEY.

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WITNESS THE **FALL, RESURRECTION, AND REVENGE** OF
ONE OF COMICS' **MOST FEARED VILLAINS.**



Cover art by Mateus Santolouco

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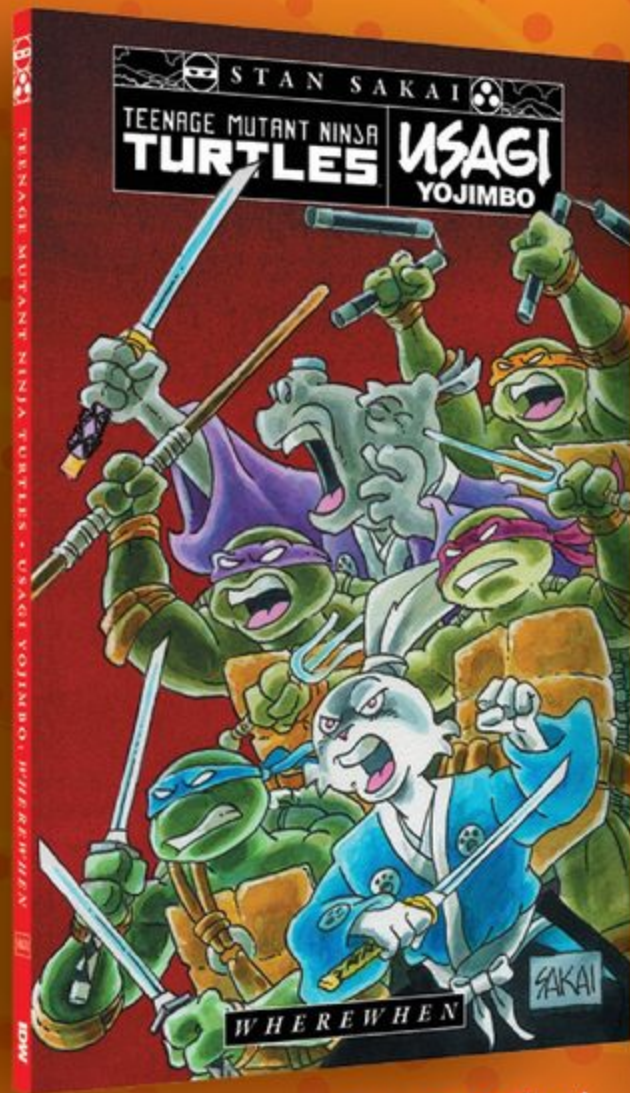
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FROM EVERY DIMENSION.

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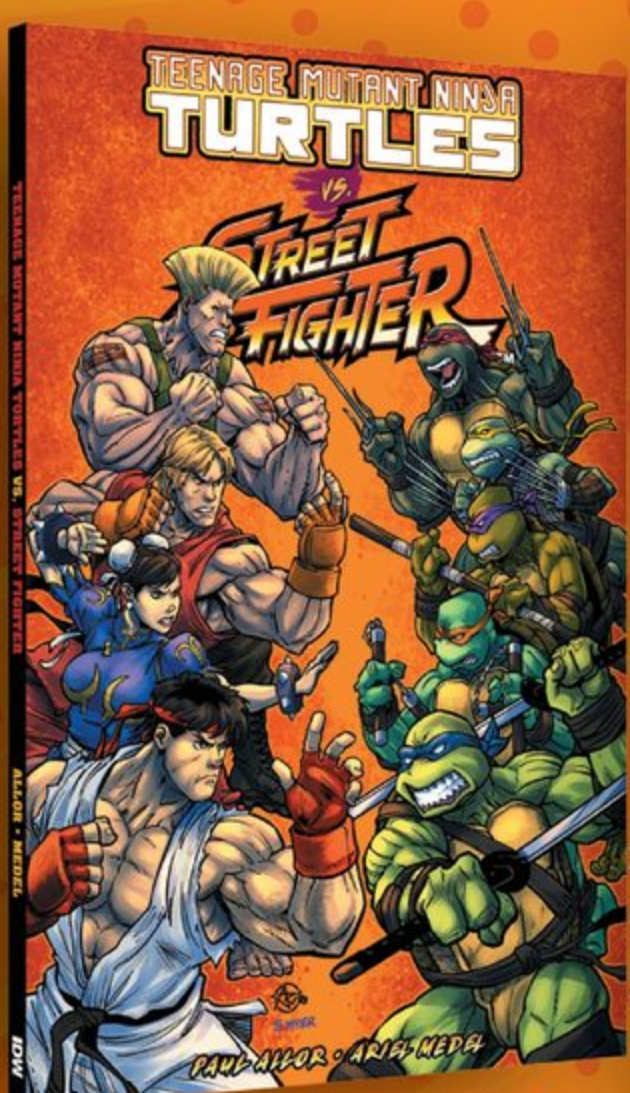
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ART BY JARED CULLUM

FROM ALL OF US AT IDW...

As 2025 winds down, we want to thank you, our incredible readers, for making this year one to remember.

Whether you picked up your first issue or have been with us since the beginning, your passion and support inspire everything we do. Thank you for reading, collecting, sharing, screaming, and occasionally crying over our comics this year.

Your support, enthusiasm, and love for these stories have powered us through an incredible year. From new beginnings to long-awaited returns, it's been our honor to share these pages with you.

We can't wait to show you what's coming next. But for now, we hope your holidays are filled with warmth, joy, and a stack of great comics.

**Happy Holidays
and Happy New Year
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